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TIFD News - Save these camp dates!

1 message

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TIFD Pop Quiz -- Name This Banner!

Dena Houston writes that this handmade cloth banner waved at a Texas Camp or other folk dance camp in Texas back in the 1960s. "Emerson Hawley, an Austin dancer back then, has saved the banner all this time and asked if someone might remember what it was used for." Can you crack the mystery? Write to editor@tifd.org. Prize: Recognition for the longest memory around.



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Like us on Facebook and visit our group page!

Thanks for submitting your news

TIFD offers grants to member groups



Putting faces on our TIFD Board trustees

The next regular TIFD Board meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 3, 2024, online via Zoom. Email board@tifd.org with any agenda items or to attend.

Your TIFD Board is:

- Kathleen Yoder, President
- Emily Doubt, Vice President
- Misi Tsurikov, Secretary
- Shirley Johnson, Treasurer
- Lisa Dielman, Asst. Treasurer
- Shelley Allison, Trustee
- Joan Furstenberg, Trustee
- Lauren Johnson, Trustee
- Helen "Dee" McCandless, Trustee

The Board meets on ZOOM and via email. Here's a fun, candid screenshot from the July 2 board meeting, including meeting guest and co-TIFD webmaster Ariadne Urania. L-R from top left: Kathleen, Misi, Joan, Shirley, Shelley, Dee, Lisa, Ariadne, Emily. Not pictured: Lauren.



Texas Camp 2024 to announce registration soon **Putting a new face on our TIFD website**

Changing of the Web Guard

The Board has named three new co-webmasters: Misi Tsurikov, Ariadne Urania and Kathleen Yoder. They succeed Jay Elbaor, who has served TIFD promptly and capably in this capacity for many years, and his outgoing assistant webmasters, Anne Alexander (who earlier served brilliantly as our original webmaster) and Misi. The Board extends many sincere thanks to Jay, Anne and Misi for their years of admirable service, and gratefully welcomes our new webmaster team!

With initial guidance from professional consultant WSI, the new webmaster team is busily redesigning the TIFD website in form and function in anticipation of opening Texas Camp registration on the new site in early September.

Special thanks to Helen "Dee" McCandless for helping the development team with artistic consultation, original art, and advice on user experience.

Check out our new website-in-progress

Tweaks to the main site, tifd.org, will continue for a few weeks, so please visit often to see what's new!



Save the date!

Old Country Weekend, Oct. 18-20



Oklahoma City International Folk Dancers'
41st ANNUAL OLD COUNTRY WEEKEND
October 18-20, 2024
Cross Point Camp, Kingston, OK

Featuring

Roberto Bagnoli

From Rome, Italy

We are very happy to welcome Roberto Bagnoli to our Old Country Weekend event for the first time!

Roberto Bagnoli is a master teacher of international folkdance with specializations in traditional and modern Israeli dance and in ethnic dances of the Balkans.

He founded the association Folk Atelier Reggio Emilia (FARE), dedicated to preserving and promoting dance and other folk arts. The association is responsible for dance classes throughout Italy; Roberto himself teaches weekly classes in Bologna and neighboring cities in northern Italy and monthly classes in Rome and Milan. He is director of two highly successful camps in Italy each year: Balkanot, a winter camp focused on both Israeli and Balkan dance, and Camp Yofi, a summer camp presenting a broad spectrum of Israeli dance forms. Roberto conducts workshops and seminars throughout Europe, the Far East, and North America.



Save the date!

Texas Camp, Nov. 28 - Dec. 1

ED. NOTE: The following announcement was originally sent to TIFD members on April 7. Below that is the updated Camp health safety policy for this year. Stay tuned here and at tifd.org for further developments.

In case you missed them, here are the details that have been released to date about 2024 Camp, held once again at Greene Family Camp in Bruceville, Texas.

FEATURING:

Joan Bennett

Line Dance Teacher

Favorites from the International Folk Dance Repertoire

Nick & Melissa Enge

Couple Dance Teachers

Fox Trot and Other Social Dance Favorites

Shirley Johnson

Singing Teacher

Folk Songs and Other Delights

Don Weeda

Director

Camp Band and Auxiliary Ensembles

Suze Stentz & Richie Leonard

Vendors

Balkan Bazaar

NOTE: After careful consideration, the Board has issued an **updated health safety policy** for Texas Camp 2024. COVID testing and protective masks are now both optional. However, as newer variants of COVID are still with us and cases are expected to increase this winter, the Board encourages campers to take the following common-sense steps:

- Please take the latest vaccine recently approved by the FDA and due to roll out this fall for the recent variants of COVID. Remember it takes two weeks for maximum immunity to develop after vaccination.
- Stay up to date with other vaccinations including the new flu vaccine, and RSV if eligible. (For RSV, the Centers for Disease Control recommends a single lifetime dose for eligible older persons. Ask your doctor.)
- Self-test for COVID just before coming to Camp. If you test positive or otherwise feel ill, please stay home.
- If you feel unwell at Camp, please depart Camp.
- Practice good hygiene in consideration of your fellow campers. Cover coughs and sneezes. Wash/sanitize hands often; GFC provides sanitizer.
- Although masks are optional this year, bring and wear them for protection if you feel safer. N-95 masks offer the most protection.
- If you want to bring self-tests to Camp, note that the federal government is once again offering four free tests to those requesting them, starting early in September.

For more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

As always, the Board reserves the right to make changes to Board policy should future developments warrant.



Save the date!

**67th San Antonio Folklife and Dance Festival,
March 28-30, 2025**



Our lineup of guest teachers this year for the 67th Annual San Antonio Folklife and Dance Festival is:

- **Franklin Houston**, teaching various "golden-oldie" Balkan dances
- **Andy Taylor-Blenis**, teaching international dances and leading her famous dance stretches
- **John Rodi**, teaching international dances

Many of you will recognize John as the leader of the Komenka Ethnic Dance Ensemble from New Orleans. We have hosted Komenka many times for their amazing performances, and look forward to welcoming John in his teaching debut at SAFDF.

We offer workshops, dance parties, dance stretching sessions, lots of time to reconnect with old friends, and the opportunity to meet new friends!

We plan to open registration by early January. Register early to secure a dorm room and secure your early registration discount.

This all happens at Our Lady of the Lake University, [411 S.W. 24th Street](#) in San Antonio, Texas.

Visit safdf.org for more information.



Save the date!

NFO National Conference, April 2-6, 2025

NFO invites you to attend the **National Folk Organization Conference** April 2-6, in beautiful Portland, Oregon, "the City of Roses." Once again, the conference will offer an exciting array of workshops and activities -- learning, networking and dancing with incredible people from throughout the entire country.

If you are passionate about Folk Dance and related topics and would like to –

- 1. make new friends
- 2. gather new dances and creative ideas for presenting them
- 3. learn about the indigenous people of other countries
- 4. try your hand at working with traditional handicrafts
- 5. talk about what you do with others
- 6. hear international and nationally recognized presenters
- 7. enjoy live music for your dancing pleasure

and

- 8. view performances from local groups

Come and join in this stimulating gathering of dancers, teachers, musicians and educators.

Learn more about what the NFO organization can do to support you and your organization. Join with us to foster respect, synergy, diversity, curiosity and education. We would love to be with you, and invite you to be with us.

Go to nfo-usa.com to register in December. Before December, direct any specific questions to Jeanette Geslison, at jeanette_geslison@byu.edu .



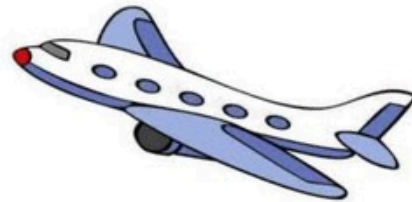
ED. NOTE: Southwest area folk dancers may recall that the 2024 NFO conference was held in Texas April 4-9 at Greene Family Camp so attendees could get a good view of the total eclipse -- which they did -- and those of us who attended, including yours truly, got a good look at what an NFO National Conference is like. I give it a thumbs-up! Some photos from that event below.

Also, a reminder that TIFD members were bestowed a one-year group membership in NFO, which means TIFD members qualify for the member rate when attending the conference.





Do you need help paying for travel to a folk-related event?



Do you lack the funds to complete a folk arts project?

APPLY FOR AN NFO GRANT

**** Deadline Nov 1, 2024 ****
Info at <https://nfo-usa.com/nfo-grants>



TIFD local news

Dallas Folk Dancers

-- submitted by Shelley Allison

For the second consecutive year, Dallas folk dancers will teach for audience participation at the Plano International Festival. The free event will take place Saturday, Oct. 19, and all folk dancers are encouraged to join in. More details to come, or go to <https://www.planointernationalfestival.org/>



Dallas and TIFD folk dancer Shelley Allison attended the New Mexico Folk Dance Camp, July 25-28 in Socorro, NM. Featured were Israeli folk dance choreographer and teacher Shmulik Gov-Ari, and social dance instructors Nick & Melissa Enge. The Enges, who will also be featured at Texas Camp 2024, studied under Richard Powers and are now social dance instructors and historians at The University of Texas at Austin.



Houston IFD

-- submitted by Joan Furstenberg

HIFD dancers will perform Bulgarian dances on the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 22, at the Houston Slavic Heritage Festival. The festival will take place from noon to 6 pm at Northside Columbus Hall, 607 E Whitney Dr., Houston; Entrance to the festival is \$5.00. For more information, go to <https://houstonslavicheritagefestival.com/>



After enduring the Derecho storm last May, Houston was hit again July 8, this time by Hurricane Beryl. Then the air conditioning at their Monday night venue went out and had to be replaced. As a result, HIFD held no Monday night beginner folk dance classes in July. The group is back in action and met Aug. 19 and 26. Joan Furstenberg, Sue Griffin and Kristin Lucas take turns filling the late Bud Bearce's shoes by sharing teaching duties for the group.



Oklahoma City IFD

-- submitted by Tamara Smith

The annual **Old Country Weekend** folk dance camp sponsored by Oklahoma City IFD will take place Oct. 18-20 at Lake Texoma. See flyer above. For more information or questions, contact Rhonda at 405-706-3627 (texting is best) or rhondasfarm11@gmail.com



Other upcoming and ongoing dance events

The **30th World Camp** will take place Sept. 26-29 at Iroquois Springs in Rock Hill, NY. Registration is open by mail, or online at <http://www.worldcamp.us/>

Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop will be Jan. 31-Feb. 3, 2025, at the Holiday Inn Celebration in Kissimmee, Fla. Teachers: **Roberto Bagnoli**, international dances, and **Petur Iliev**, Bulgarian dances. More information at floridafolkdancer.com

The National Folk Organization (NFO) offers mentoring for folk dance groups. See **The Mentoring Project**, <https://nfo-usa.com/the-nfo-mentoring-project/>

Jim Gold Folk Tours 2024

For information or to register, go to <https://www.jimgold.com/> or email jimgold@jimgold.com

Ongoing events on Zoom include the following. Please check with the dance organization to confirm dates and times.

Global Folk Dance Party sponsored by Peninsula Folk Dance Council, third Saturday of each month. To join mailing list: virtualfolkdance@gmail.com

Registration is required to get the Zoom link. https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcucemrqT4rGdEuA1GXFGqXLH9BSIMr8_Hp

Once you have registered, save that link and it will get you into all future parties.

GFDP Afterparty from Chicago VDR on the third Saturday of each month on Zoom. https://www.ethnicdance.net/virtualdancerroom/2020_virtualdancerroom-index.html

Morristown NJ Folk Dancers' regular Zoom party is now biweekly, shared with the Evanston, IL, folk dancers on alternate Mondays from 6:30-9 pm CDT. More info may be found at https://njfolkdance.tripod.com/fd_morristown.html

For a handy listing of ongoing online dancing around the country, also see <https://daleadamson.com/events-calendar/>



Like us on Facebook and visit our group page!

With so many of us connecting online these days, TIFD is updating and upgrading our social media presence. Help us promote TIFD, Texas Camp and folk dancing in general by visiting and liking our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TexasIFD> . Have a dance event, personal story, or interesting article to share? Join our online community at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/texasifd> and be part of the conversation!



Thanks for submitting your news

We welcome submissions for the next issue of the TIFD News. Please send folk dance-related articles, news of recent and upcoming activities, and other comments/questions to editor@tifd.org



TIFD offers grants to member groups

Is your local folk dance organization a TIFD member group? Member groups are eligible to apply for special project grants, and have their activities promoted in this newsletter and on the TIFD website and our social media. Please see <https://tifd.org/membership/group-membership/> for more information and an application.



If you wish to mail a group or individual membership payment, here is our address:

TIFD
416 Wonderstruck
Liberty Hill, TX 78642



Requests received by the TIFD Board will be acknowledged within 48 hours. A response to the request generally will follow in 5 to 10 business days.



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